

BLACK ORGANIZING PROJECT (BOP)

burned" and that "Memphis should have a good race riot." He stated that he did not mean these things literally but was saying them in an effort to shock Memphians into doing something to help financially impoverished Negroes. He predicted, however, without offering any proof or stating any basis in fact, that Memphis could well have racial trouble in the immediate future.

Cabbage denied that he was a formal member of the SNCC and stated that for all practical purposes his group, known as Black Organizing Power, was a "paper group." Cabbage admitted that he is a great admirer of H. Rap Brown and Stokely Carmichael and generally agreed with all of their publicly reported statements which had been attributed to them in the nation's press. He would not elaborate.

Cabbage talked in riddles and with oblique phrases such as "We want a programmatic approach to the programs," and "We must take a problematical approach to the problem." Cabbage claimed he hoped to establish in Memphis a black people's group such as Pride, Inc., in Washington, D. C. Cabbage berated what he termed the old line black leadership personified by such groups as the NAACP and the Urban League, calling these groups a collective composite of "Uncle Toms." He claimed that these people are tools of the white community. Cabbage claimed that he had organized black power groups at LeMoyne College, Owen College and Memphis State University.

Again on February 16, 1968, Charles Laverne Cabbage volunteered to Special Agents of the FBI that he is head of the Black Power organization in Memphis which he referred to as Black Organizing Power. At this point he introduced the governing body of BOP to the Special Agents as follows:

Edwina Jeanetta Harrell, Negro female,
residence 2418 Gentry, Memphis, Tennessee,
a student at Memphis State University;

John Burrell Smith, male Negro,
residence 1644 Hanauer, Apartment 2, Memphis,
a student at Owen College, Memphis, Tennessee;

BLACK ORGANIZING PROJECT(BOP)

James Elmore Phillips, Jr., male Negro,
residence 1592 Short Street, Memphis,
a student at LeMoyn College, Memphis, Tennessee;

Clinton Roy Jamerson, male Negro,
1397 Davis Street, Memphis,
a student at LeMoyn College, Memphis, Tennessee;

Charles Harrington, male Negro,
residence 2075 Rile Street, Memphis,
a student at Owen College, Memphis;

Charles S. Ballard, male Negro,
residence 1830 Kansas, Memphis,
a student at Owen College, Memphis;

Verdell Brooks, male Negro,
a student at Owen College, Memphis;

Curtis Carter, male Negro,
residence 377 East McLemore, Memphis,
a student at LeMoyn College, Memphis.

Cabbage added that Clifford Louis Taylor, 2507
Fontaine, Memphis, is also a member of the governing body.

Cabbage at this time claimed that he, Cabbage, is
the impetus of the black power movement in Memphis, Tennessee,
and that its main purpose is to stimulate in the young Negroes
a sense of black identity, black pride, and black consciousness,
to create in the blacks an independent spirit, to cease to be
dependent upon and influenced by the white race. He added
that he has stimulated the development of black power units
on three Memphis college campuses, namely, the Black Student
Association (BSA) at Memphis State University, the Afro-
American Brotherhood (AAB) at Owen Junior College, and
the BOP at LeMoyn College.